

Ag 2 U-2
X Pers 2 L. SYMINGTON

Powers' U-2 Had Motor Trouble, Brinkley Says

Kept in Isolation More Than 3 Months Before Trial, TV Commentator Reports

WASHINGTON (AP)—NBC television commentator David Brinkley said Tuesday night Francis Gary Powers has confirmed that his U-2 spy plane had mechanical trouble before it was downed in Russia in 1960. Brinkley said also Powers has said, since his release by the Russians and his return to this country, that he was kept in isolation for more than three months before being put on trial.

There was no comment from official sources on Brinkley's statements, made during a news show.

But sources familiar with the case said a lengthy analysis by experts would be needed to determine what caused the plane to fall. These officials noted that at his Moscow trial Powers said only that his plane suddenly was enveloped in flames.

Brinkley said Powers still was at some secret place on the East Coast.

Senators Seek Him

Powers has been in seclusion since his return to this country, following his exchange in Berlin on Saturday for Soviet spy Rudolf Abel. Presumably he has been undergoing questioning by Central Intelligence Agency officials.

Two more senators

suggested Tuesday that he be called before a congressional committee if necessary to learn the full story of his capture.

Sen. Symington (D-Mo.) interrupted a Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearing on another matter to observe that he is a member of key committees and add:

"I am frank to say that except for rumors and reports, I don't know anything about Capt. Powers' venture at all."

Why Not Destroyed?

"One thing I want to know," Symington told newsmen, "is why the plane was not destroyed."

Symington referred to Powers' high-altitude reconnaissance plane that was seized with its pilot deep inside Russia in May 1960. The Russians said the plane was equipped with self-destruction devices.

Subsequently, he told reporters he will go along with other members of the committee who have suggested that the 32-year-old pilot himself be called for questioning if the committee doesn't get all the information it needs in a scheduled resumption of the U-2 inquiry it started in the spring of 1960.